


SPECIAL REPORT UNITED NATIONS

TIMES



Hope?

Will the worlds' problems be solved by the seemingly magical Millennium Development Goals?

- Page 2

IN THIS ISSUE

AFGHANISTAN, ANOTHER IRAQ?

Amid falling support for Obama, critics say that Obama's support for the war in Afghanistan is quite similar if not the same to the war in Iraq.

60th Anniversary of China

One of the few remaining communist nations, China has surprised nations with ongoing development



Millennium Goals: A Step Forward?

Is the United Nations fight against global injustices only false hope?



October 8, 2009 08:26 EDT

New York (Times)

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki Moon has once again delivered a speech reaffirming the duty of the member nations to attain the Millennium Development Goals by the year 2015. However, skeptics continue to express severe concerns that the goals are unattainable and should be abandoned for a better alternative; however the leaders of developing nations seem to believe otherwise.

Somalia's President, Abdullahi Ahmed has delivered a plea to the UN for more supplies claiming that "Our capital will fall in hours not days should the tides of aids be stemmed." (Global Issues)

This belief seems to strike a note with various leaders of developing countries urging the General Assembly to take "bold, sweeping measures" (Daylife) in order to stem out the various injustices that present.

It seems to many that the million dollars worth of support does not seem to help in any visual way to the developing countries. However, if one takes to account minute progress, they will see that such aids are not only extremely beneficial but also necessary.

Many of these countries exist on the very limits of existence threatened by natural disasters and terrorist organizations.

"Our capital will fall in hours not days should the tides of aids be stemmed."

(Global Issues)

What is more is that many of these developing nations especially those within Africa believe that the developed nations have a duty to support the less fortunate. This does not stem from various laws of economics, but from past and continuing hurt that Africa has received from the European countries.

This refers to imperialistic times of the Europeans where they not only enslaved the local populations but also stripped Africa of its valuable resources. This continues on today with "blood diamonds" which are collected from African mines by corporations that exploit their workers. (BBC News)

Some experts however, say otherwise. "What we have to realize is that the governments of most developing countries are corrupt," says Ygrieg Mendalev, an economist at Warton, "Even if we give aid they will never reach the desperate." (BBC News)

These experts contend that it is wasteful to freely give resources until the countries have the satisfaction of seeing their aid being put to a good cause instead of causing further disintegration of the nations.

Yet, this does not strike a chord with Non-Governmental-Organizations who contend that even if not all aid does not reach the public, there will be more aids available. "What we are providing is basic sustenance, food that people cannot otherwise live without." said the Red Cross spokesman. "The aid we are distributing is critical to the 1.5 billion people who living under the poverty line."

For now the session continues with various comments by the nations in either support of or denial of the Goals. It remains to be seen whether the further financial support will be granted to the United Nations Development Program.